

Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/710,598
Docket No.: 13113-US-PA

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 4-7 is noted with great appreciation and that they would be allowed if rewritten or amended into independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, in order to expedite an early allowance of the above-identified application, Applicant has integrated the allowable subject matter of claim 4 into the independent base claim 1 and canceled claim 4. For at least the foregoing reason, it is believed that claims 1-3 and 5-7 are in proper condition for allowance.

Furthermore, Applicant also integrated the allowable subject matter of claim 4 into the independent claims 8 and 11. Applicant respectfully submits that since Yamada fails to teach, suggest or disclose at least a baffle disposed between the first lens and the second lens in the lens system, and therefore the amended claims 8 and 11 are also patentable over Yamada for at least the same reason above. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 9-10 and 12-13 which depend from the amended independent claims 8 and 10 are also allowable for at least their dependence on an allowable base claim.

Furthermore, Applicant has added new claims 14-16 and 17-19, which depend from the independent claims 8 and 11 respectively. More specifically, the newly added dependent claims 14-16 and 17-19 recite the allowable subject matters of claims 4-7, which, as stated by the Examiner, are not taught, suggested or disclosed by Yamada, and therefore should also be allowed.

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It is believed that no new matter adds by way of amendment to claims or otherwise to the application.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-3 and 5-19 are in proper condition for allowance. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

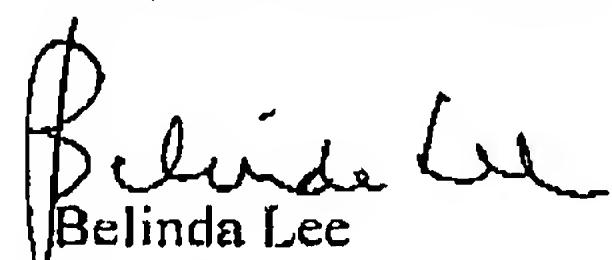
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CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all pending claims 1-3 and 5-19 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this application, he is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned counsel to arrange for such a conference.

Date : February 24, 2006

Respectfully submitted,


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